



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Rep. Kind Resolution Recognizes National MPS Awareness Day (February 25, 2005)

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) recognizes National MPS Awareness Day with a resolution espousing the awareness and research goals of MPS patients and their advocates. Mucopolysaccharidoses and Mucopolipidoses, collectively known as MPS disorders, are rare genetic disorders caused by the body's inability to produce specific enzymes, resulting in progressive damage throughout the body. Due to a lack of information and understanding about MPS, even among the medical community, children often receive delayed diagnosis. While no cure exists today, early diagnosis can increase the effectiveness of quality-of-life improving treatments.

"I have met with MPS children and their families and am touched by the extraordinary hope and heart they exhibit despite the trials of this difficult disorder," stated Rep. Kind, who first became aware of MPS after learning that a constituent suffers from the disorder. "I am proud to join MPS patients, their families and advocates, and all members of the National MPS Society in recognizing the severity of this disorder and in honoring those dedicated to raising awareness and finding a cure."

Most MPS patients suffer from a variety of ailments including problems with bones, heart, joints, and the respiratory system and central nervous system. The diseases are rarely apparent at birth, but the signs and symptoms develop with age as more cells become damaged. As the damaged cells accumulate in the body, the body shuts down, eventually leading to a premature death.

Additional information about MPS is available online at the National MPS Society website: <http://www.mpsociety.org>. The National MPS Society is a non-profit organization whose mission is to find a cure for MPS disorders, to provide support to individuals and families affected by MPS, and to promote public and professional awareness of these disorders.

A copy of the resolution can be found on Rep. Kind's website: www.house.gov/kind